

## Kansas Department of Labor

### *Podcast Episode 2: Emergency Unemployment Compensation and Tier II Transcript*

Hello there and welcome to Questions from Claimants, the podcast about all things unemployment. Each episode we'll speak with unemployment experts from the Kansas Department of Labor to help answer your questions about your benefits. I'm your host Jonathan Larance.

In this episode we're continuing our discussion on emergency unemployment compensation—specifically Tier II benefits. To get those answers I spoke with Kathy Toelkes, Director of Communications for the Kansas Department of Labor.

**Jonathan: Now, I've exhausted my Tier I benefits and I need to go on to Tier II benefits. Do I need to apply for those as well?**

Kathy: In most cases, no. You won't have to complete a separate application for Tier II. If you have been filing your claims for Tier I and you exhaust and your claim remains active, what we'll do at KDOL is we'll use the information we have to determine your eligibility for Tier II and, assuming you are eligible, we'll recalculate your benefit amount for Tier II. And then we'll send you a determination notice that will tell you if you've been found eligible for Tier II benefits and, if so, what your total and weekly benefit amount will be under Tier II. And we'll do that without having to send you a new application to fill out and complete.

**Jonathan: How can I tell if I'm eligible for Tier II?**

Kathy: If you received EUC Tier I benefits, then more than likely you're going to be eligible for Tier II benefits. The general eligibility requirements for Tier II are having exhausted your regular state unemployment benefits, having exhausted your Tier I EUC benefits and not being eligible for a new state unemployment claim in any state, or in Canada, and being currently unemployed or working less than full time.

**Jonathan: What should I do if my benefits are about to run out?**

Kathy: The most important thing to keep in mind as you are about to exhaust your existing benefits is that you need to keep filing your weekly claims. That's going to keep your claim active. That's going to make it easier for us to get benefits started to you on any of the extension programs. Also, as you near exhausting your existing benefits, you're going to receive something in the mail from the Kansas Department of Labor. What it is is going to vary depending on which benefit program you are moving in to. If you are already receiving your Tier I benefits and you are about to exhaust those benefits, you won't need to complete a separate application provided you continue to file your weekly claims and your claim remains active. We will automatically determine your eligibility for Tier II and then what we're going to mail you is a determination notice for your Tier II benefits, which will tell you if you've been found eligible for Tier II and, if so, how much your total benefit amount will be.

So, keep filing your weekly claim and then wait to receive these things in the mail from the Kansas Department of Labor. Now if it's been more than a week since you exhausted your benefits and you haven't received either an application or a determination notice from the Kansas Department of Labor, then you need to call our unemployment insurance Contact Center.

**Jonathan: Kathy, thank you for taking the time to talk with us today.**

Kathy: You're welcome.

That's it for this episode of *Questions from Claimants*. Join us next time for details about Tier III.

If you have questions about Kansas unemployment process, e-mail us at [podcast@dol.ks.gov](mailto:podcast@dol.ks.gov). For security reasons we can't answer specific questions about your claim, but we may be able to answer general questions in an upcoming episode. Also, remember to go online to [www.GetKansasBenefits.com](http://www.GetKansasBenefits.com) for more information.

I'm Jonathan Larance. Thanks for listening.